

REMARKS

This application contains claims 1-52. Claims 2, 20, 28 and 46 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 13, 14, 18, 19, 21, 27, 29, 31, 34, 36, 40, 44, 45 and 47 are hereby amended. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8-10, 13-17, 19-21, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34-36, 40-43 and 45-47 were objected to for depending from rejected base claims, but were deemed to recite allowable subject matter. Therefore, independent claims 1, 18, 27 and 44 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 2, 20, 28 and 46, respectively. Claims 3, 21, 29 and 47 have been amended to depend from these independent claims, following the cancellation of claims 2, 20, 28 and 46, from which claims 3, 21, 29 and 47 formerly depended. Claims 5, 8, 10, 13, 14, 19, 31, 34, 36, 40 and 45 have been amended to stand as independent claims, incorporating the limitations of the base claims and (as appropriate) intervening claims from which they formerly depended.

Thus, in view of these amendments, independent claims 1, 5, 8, 10, 13, 14, 18, 19, 27, 31, 34, 36, 40, 44 and 45 are now believed to be in condition for allowance. The remaining claims in the application each depend from one of these independent claims and are thus believed to be allowable, as well.

Claims 1, 4, 7, 11, 12, 18, 22-27, 30, 33, 37-39, 44 and 48-52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Cai et al. (U.S. Patent 6,536,001) in view of Hwang (U.S. Patent 6,501,791). While disagreeing with the grounds of rejection, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 18, 27 and 44, as noted above, in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the subject matter that the Examiner determined to be patentable over the cited art. Therefore, claims 1, 4, 7, 11, 12, 18, 22-27, 30, 33, 37-39, 44 and 48-52 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes the amendments and remarks presented hereinabove to be fully responsive to all of the objections and grounds of rejection raised by the Examiner. In view of these amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims in the present application are in order for allowance. Notice to this effect is hereby requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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